

LEWISTON TRIBUNE (ID)  
29 April 1985

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## The spook business

The liberal news media would have us all believe that our American intelligence community consists of hired thugs, vicious connivers, assassins, and generally bad guys.

This is, of course, a ridiculous posture. It is not so now and throughout our history has not been so.

Our best known spy was a 21-year-old lad named Nathan Hale, who was hanged by the British without trial during the Revolutionary War. His final statement, "I regret that I have but one life to lose for my country" is a classic part of our history.

A list of a few well-known people and their past or current occupations should raise a few eyebrows in surprise.

Julia Child, TV chef.

Arthur Goldberg, U.S. Supreme Court justice.

Bill Colby, CIA chief.

Mike Burke, president of the New York Yankees and of Madison Square Garden.

Temple Fielding, travel and documentary writer.

What do these people have in common? They were all spies. The documented exploits of little Julia and others were often hair-raising in nature but those good Americans got the job well done. They were employed by the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) during World War II. The OSS was the parent of the Central Intelligence Agency which is so abused today by the liberals, and was then under the command of General "Wild Bill" Donovan. As a military man I served with OSS for a time in Europe and I am not ashamed to state that I worked in the explosives "dirty tricks" department. To my knowledge I never laid eyes on Julia Child or any of the others, but I am proud that I shared an experience with people with their stature.

Any thinking American realizes that espionage and intelligence activities are a necessary part of survival in today's world of continuing political jungle warfare. Our country is tempting prey for those who would devour us if we weaken

enough. We must therefore be constantly on the alert for predators and a tight intelligence system is the only possible answer.

An old oriental proverb says, "One does not slay a viper with a willow wand." Let us make no mistake, the game does get rough in the spook business at times and people do indeed get hurt or killed. This was evidenced by the recent killing of one of our own military officers by a Russian sentry. Our man knew the risks he was taking but that was part of his job. He weighed the odds, took the gamble, and lost the biggest stake of all. Who among us dares to criticize?

Intelligence work is a grim business engaged in by men and women who have painfully learned all the dirty tricks needed to hope for survival in that jungle out there. They deserve far more than the sneers and jeers of the liberal media. They deserve our praise and gratitude for doing daily a dirty job that few of us would have the guts to do.

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